



A SEVENTEENTH CENTURY NEWS LETTER



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WANTED: CONTRIBUTORS

The list of subscribers to this News-Letter has been well maintained, considering war-time conditions. Hence, we are in the fortunate position of not having to hold out our hat for subscriptions, though we should like to see the list greatly increased. There are still a number of active seventeenth-century scholars who have not sent us their dollar. The reason, we are confident, is less that they would miss the dollar than that they are preoccupied with other affairs. May this gentle hint prick their consciences.

What we do need, however, is more first-class contributions from scholars who are active in seventeenth-century research. From correspondence with past contributors we know that inquiries and notices appearing in past issues have often born fruit. We trust that other scholars will not be backward about forwarding items when they have something to ask or tell.

Of course, we are aware that some serious students consider that specific inquiries published here or elsewhere are rarely answered. They argue that if the answer is not known to the specialist who makes the query, the odds are against anyone else's being able to supply the information. But it is the odd chance

that makes such inquiries worth while. The flourishing state of our sister publication, Notes and Queries, even in these disrupted days, is evidence of the value of intercommunication among specialists. We know that after the war is over, many demands will be placed upon this little sheet. At the present time, when space is available for contributions, the editors would feel happier if more subscribers would become contributors.

NEW GUGGENHEIM AWARDS

Among the sixty-nine fellowships announced recently by the Guggenheim foundation, four were awarded for research on projects concerning seventeenth-century literature. The winners of the fellowships and their projects are:

1. Arthur Barker (Toronto), "A History of the Criticism of Milton."
2. G. E. Bentley (Chicago), "The Jacobean and Caroline Stage."
3. Bertrand H. Bronson (California), "A Musical-Literary Companion to Child's Ballads."
4. Donald L. Clark (Columbia), "The Influences of Classical and Post-Classical Rhetoric on Milton."

INFORMATION, PLEASE

When did it become common prac-

tice for authors to underline words in copy sent to the press, to indicate that these words should be printed in italics? This question has been raised by Yale's distinguished printer, Carl P. Rollins. We can think of examples in the late eighteenth century, but none earlier.

Evidently the late R. B. McKerrrow once puzzled over this subject, for in the Introduction to Bibliography he advanced the tentative conclusion, "We may perhaps assume that underlining was a customary indication" that words were to be printed in italic type. He cited only one example, the manuscript of Richard Carew's Epistle Concerning the Excellencies of the English Tongue (1605).

We should be glad to learn from our readers of other early examples of this practice. Instances of the printer's disregarding this signal will be equally significant. Perhaps enough evidence can be accumulated to permit the formation of a definite conclusion.

RESEARCH AT THE HUNTINGTON LIBRARY

Most seventeenth-century scholars have in the back of their minds the hope that they may some day be able to spend a period of research in the Huntington Library. Not only is the Huntington one of the greatest repositories of seventeenth-century source materials, but it is equally distinguished by the dynamic program of research carried on within its walls.

A recent issue of the Huntington Library Quarterly has listed the readers who have been doing research there recently. Of course, this research covers all the major literary and historical fields, but over a dozen of those listed are in the seventeenth century. They include the following:

1. Hardin Craig, Jr. (California Institute of Technology), "Naval History" and "Sixteenth-Century Bibles."

2. Francis Henry Drake (Madera High School), "Epigrams of the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries."

3. William K. Jordan (Chicago), "History of Political Thought, 1603-1640."

4. Pauline Kramer (Columbia), "Critical Appreciation of the Works of Sir John Davies" and "The Knowledge of Hebrew in England during the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries."

5. John Leon Llievsay (Stanford), "The Influence of Stefano Guazzo in England, 1575-1650."

6. George R. Potter (California), "The Sermons of John Donne."

7. Hazel A. Reynolds (Stanford), "Early Dramatic Blank Verse."

8. Linda Van Norden (College of Puget Sound), "Life of Henry Spelman."

9. Ruth Wallerstein (Wisconsin), "Studies in Psychological and Critical Views of the Imagination and Emotion in the Seventeenth Century."

10. Gilmore Warner (Yankton), "Edition of Milton's History of Britain."

11. H. Adelbert White (Nebraska), "Subject Arrangement of the Short-Title Catalogue."

12. David Harris Willson (Minnesota; Guggenheim Fellow), "Biography of James VI and I."

13. A.S.P. Woodhouse (Toronto; Guggenheim Fellow), "Study of

Milton's Poetry with Special Reference to the Thought."

SEVENTEENTH-CENTURY NEWSBOOKS AND PERIODICALS

The December, 1943, issue of the Journal of the Rutgers University Library contains two articles on English newsbooks of the seventeenth century. The first, by J. Milton French, is a brief general survey of the library's holdings. The second, by Virginia S. Burnett, is a careful bibliography of each individual title. The collection, though far smaller than those in some large libraries, is sufficient to warrant attention.

BUNYAN EDITIONS

Yale has recently acquired the second and third editions of John Bunyan's Solomon's Temple Spiritualized, London, 1691, and 1698. Since Yale already has the first (1688), it is now possible to compare all three seventeenth-century editions in one library. It had previously been possible only in the Public Library in Bedford, England.

The first edition is also in Huntington, W. A. Clark Library, Los Angeles, and Brown. The later seem not to be anywhere else in this country. Besides the Bedford Public Library, the second is in Trinity College, Cambridge; the third in the British Museum, Bath Municipal Library, and Bristol Reference Library.

FACSIMILE EDITION OF MILTON

All Milton scholars are gratified at the publication of Volume I of Harris Fletcher's edition of Milton's Complete Poetical Works. This is the first of the four volumes, and it contains the Poems of 1645 and 1673, the 1637 Lycidas, the 1638 Comus, and several other poems.

The text is reproduced in photographic facsimile, with careful textual notes. The volume is "aimed at satisfying the serious student," and is highly successful in achieving this aim. The notes are textual only, so that students seeking explanatory notes will need to use it in conjunction with other editions. It stands on the shoulders of the Columbia Milton, and illustrates how one great work of scholarship leads to the next.

Also reproduced are a number of Milton manuscripts. They should prove very fruitful, both for Milton scholars and for any student who wishes to learn the evolutionary processes through which a text passes. We salute Professor Fletcher and look forward to the publication of the latter volumes.

We trust that the method used in this edition will be considered seriously by the editors of other seventeenth-century texts. Human frailty being what it is, this method has great advantages over any other method of reproducing a text which requires copying by the editor or printer. In addition to being a landmark in the textual study of Milton, this volume may also become a landmark in the art of textual criticism.

AN ANECDOTE OF BURNET'S EDITOR

Recently while making use of the Routh edition of Bishop Burnet's Own Time, we suddenly remembered a story of this venerable editor as told by R. W. Chapman.

When Routh was President of Magdalen College, his conduct gave rise to many amusing stories. He was President of his College for 63 years, living to the age of 99. Before his death in 1854 he was a well-known figure in Victorian Oxford, carrying his orthodoxy into his dress by continuing to wear a

wig and the sartorial fashions of his younger days.

According to the Magdalen tradition one night the aged President was awakened by the porter's hammering on the door of his chambers.

"Why do you knock at this hour?" asked the old man.

"An accident has occurred, sir," replied the porter. "One of the college fellows drank too much tonight, sir, and has fallen out of the window."

"Is that the only reason you had for waking me?" questioned Routh.

"No, sir," replied the porter; "he has broken his neck. It is--"

"Don't tell me, don't tell me," interrupted the witty nonagenarian; "let me guess!"

GROLIER CLUB EXHIBITION

The current exhibition of the Grolier Club is made up of "Unique Books" in the collections of members of the Club. The volumes exhibited range in date from 1494 to 1928. The following items bear seventeenth-century imprints:

1. Jubbes, John. A briefe vindication of the Religion and Government of New England Against the Presbyterie of Scotland. (N.p., cir. 1649-1650.)

2. Leech, John. A Booke of Grammar Questions, For the Helpe of Young Schollers. Now the second time imprinted. Printed at London by Thomas Dawson, 1618.

3. Ocampo, Estevan de. Relacion del Estado Quetenia La Isla de Santa Cataline. (Madrid, 1667.)

4. A Short Discourse of Hawking to the field with high flying long-winged Hawkes, together with

the sorting and ordering of Spaniels. Printed at London for Thomas Man, 1603.

5. Smith, Capt. John. Advertisements for the unexperienced Planters of New England, or any where. London, Printed by Iohn Haviland, and are to be sold by Robert Milbourne, 1631. (The only known copy in wrappers, uncut.)

6. -- An accidence for the Sea. London, Printed by T. H. for Benjamin Fisher, 1636. (One other copy of this edition is known; this is the only uncut copy.)

7. The Smithfield Jockey: Or, the Character and Original of a Horse-Courser. London, Printed for W. D., 1675.

In forwarding this information, Mr. George L. McKay, Librarian of the Grolier Club, asks: "Will you kindly let me know if you find any are not unique in the condition indicated?" We surmise that readers of this News-Letter will have a job cut out for them if they are going to oblige Mr. McKay.

NEWS FROM BODLEY

A letter from Strickland Gibson brings recent news of the Bodleian and literary research in Oxford.

"Bodley remains quiet and peaceful. Owing to the lack of staff the book service is poor, but a good many older readers who are in no hurry find it an earthly paradise.

"We have just arranged a Fire-fighting Exhibition (1560-1890), and have filled all our exhibit cases. I hope the American troops find it interesting. Two or three parties of soldiers visit Bodley every week.

"There is not much doing in bibliography just now, and for the

moment the Oxford Bibliographical Society is quiescent. It is very difficult to get printing done at the Oxford University Press. Last term I had a bibliography class of six, but only two were of the English school."

FACSIMILE REPRINTS

The latest seventeenth-century publication issued by Scholars' Facsimiles and Reprints is the Journal of Richard Norwood for the years 1639-1654. It represents a venture into a slightly different field from the usual publications of this organization, since it is printed from the original manuscript diary rather than being the photographic reproduction of a printed book. We hope that similar publications will be issued in the future, since there are many seventeenth-century diaries that deserve publication in limited editions.

While mentioning the Scholars' Facsimiles and Reprints, we may appropriately list other seventeenth-century materials that have appeared under their imprint.

1. Niccols, Richard. Expicedium. A funeral Oration Upon Queen Elizabeth, 1603.

2. -- The Beggars Ape, 1623.

3. Brinsley, John. A Consolation for our Grammar Schooles, 1622.

4. Heywood, Thomas. An Apology for Actors, 1612. Bound with I. G., Refutation of the Apology, 1615.

5. Jourdain, Silvester. A Discovery of the Barmudas, otherwise called the Isle of Divels, 1610.

AUTOGRAPH DOCUMENTS

An unusual number of seventeenth-

century source-materials appear in Catalogue 730 issued by Maggs Brothers. The following is a selection of the more interesting items:

329. Baxter, Richard. A.L.S. to the Earl of Lauderdale, June 24, 1670.

356-7-8. Documents pertaining to King Charles II.

370. Cromwell, Oliver. A Latin letter written six months before his death, probably composed by John Milton, who was Latin Secretary to Cromwell during this period.

381. Donne, John. A.L.S. to Lady Kingsmel, October 26, 1624.

407. Gyles, Henry. A.L.S. to Ralph Thoresby, the Leeds antiquarian, about 1680.

409. Halifax, Charles Montagu, Earl of. A.L.S. to Lord Godolphin.

413-414. Heinsius, Nikolass, the Dutch scholar. A.L.S. and autograph poem.

416-417. Queen Henrietta Maria. Two A.L.S.

OUR FACSIMILE

On the back of this issue two pages are reproduced from one of the most important books in any seventeenth-century library. Perhaps we are a bit prejudiced since it is also one of our favorite bedside books. At any rate, we hope that subscribers not familiar with this volume will acquire the taste from this small sample. And we offer the usual prize for the first subscriber who identifies this volume, namely one year's free subscription. Be sure to state which edition has been reproduced.

Sports and Pastimes.

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Sports and pastimes of old time used
in this Citie.

Of sports and
pastimes in
this Citie, eu-
ery thing hath
his time, a
time to weep,
a time to
laugh, a time
to mourne,
and a time to
dance.
Eccl^e 3.

Et vs now (saith *Fitzstephen*) come to the sports
and pastimes, seeing it is fit, that a Citie should
not only be commodious and serious, but also
merry and sportfull. Whereupon, in the scales
of the Popes, vntill the time of Pope *Leo*, on
the one side was *S. Peter* fishing, with a key o-
uer him, reached as it were by the hand of God out of Heauen,
and about it this verse.

Twipio me uanum liquisti, suscipe clauum.

And on the other side was a Citie, and this inscription on it.
Aurea Roma. Likewise to the praise of *Augustus Caesar*, and
the Citie, in respect of the shewes and sports, was written :

Notis plus tota redempti spectacula mane, &c.

*All night it rained, and shewes at morrow-side retorne againe.
And Caesar with almighty Ioue hath matcht an equal vigne.*

Sage-plays.

But *London* for the shewes vpon Theaters, and Comicall
pastimes, hath holy playes, representations of miracles, which
holy Confessors haue wrought, or representations of torments,
wherin the constancy of Martyrs appeared. Every yeere also
on *Shrove-Tuesday* (that wee may begin with childrens sports,
seeing wee all haue bene Children) the Schoole-boyes doe
bring Cockes of the game to their Master, and all the fore-
noonne they delight themselves in Cockfighting. After dinner,
all the youthes go into the fields to play at the ball.

Ball play.

The Schollers of euery Schoole haue their ball, or baskin, in
their

Sports and Pastimes.

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and one slipping on a sudden, all fall together. Some tye bones
to their feete, and vnder their heeles, and shewing themselves
by a litle picked Staffe, doe slide as wisely as a bird flieth in
the ayre, or an arrow out of a Crof-bowe. Sometime two run
together with Poles, and hitting one the other, either one or
both doe fall, not without hurt : some break their armes, some
their legges, but youth (desirous of glory in this sort) exerci-
seth it selfe against the time of warre. Many of the Citizens do
delight themselves in Hawkes and Hounds, for they haue
libertie of hunting in *Middlesex*, *Hertfordshire*, all *Chiltren*,
and in *Kent* to the water of *Cray*. Thus saith *Fitzstephen* of
spoils.

Hawking and
hunting.

A Stage-play
continued 3.
dayes.

A Stage-play
that lasted
eight dayes.

Theater and
Curten for
Comedies and
other shewes.
Cock-fight.

The Ball at
Tennis play.

These of the like exercises haue bin continued till our time,
namely in Stage-playes, whereof ye may read in An^o. 1391.
a play by the parish Clerkes of London, at the Skinners Well
besides Smithfield; which continued thre dayes together, the
King, Quene, and Nobles of the Realme being present. And
of another, in the yere 1409. which lasted eight dayes, and
was of matter from the creation of the world, whereat was
present most part of the Nobility, and Gentry of England.

Of late time, in stead of those Stage-playes, haue ben used
Comedies, Tragedies, Enterludes, and Epitaxies, both true
and fained : For the acting whereof, certaine publike places
haue been erected. Also Cockes of the game are yet cherished
by diners men for their pleasures, much money being layd on
their heads, when they fight in pits, whereof some bee costly
made for that purpose.

The Ball is used by Noble-men and Gentlemen in Ten-
nis courts, and by people of meaner sort in the open fields and
streets.

The marching forth of Citizens comes, and other young
men on horsebacke, with diarmed Launces and sheldes,
there to practise feates of warre, man against man, hath long
since ben left off, but in their Citie, they haue used on horse-
backe, to runne at a dead marke, called a Quinton.

For

